

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 04231 260823Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SAA-01 SS-15 SSO-00 /041 W
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O R 260810Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1494
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 4231

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OTRA, IS, KU, SA
SUBJ: TRAVEL OF AMB LEONARD

REF: (A) TEL AVIV 9419, (B) STATE 187592

1. VISIT OF AMB LEONARD TO KUWAIT WOULD BE MOST WELCOME. THE
PROBLEM IS TO FIND KUWAITIS USEFUL FOR HIM TO MEET WITH.

2. NO ONE HERE CAN ASSURE ME THAT FOREIGN MINISTER SHAIKH AHMAD
AL-JABER AL-SABAH WILL BE BACK IN KUWAIT BEFORE AUGUST 4. HE IS
NOW IN BELGRADE AND MAY TAKE SEVERAL DAYS VACATION IN FRANCE
AFTER THE NAM MEETING. HIS UNDER SECRETARY, RASHID AL-RASHID,
WILL DEFINITELY NOT BE BACK FROM HIS SUMMER LEAVE BEFORE AUGUST
5. FRANKLY, THERE IS NO ONE ELSE AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WORTH
AMB LEONARD'S TROUBLE TO COME HERE TO MEET.

3. EVEN IF FOREIGN MINISTER IS NOT YET BACK, HOWEVER, I THINK
AMB LEONARD COULD USEFULLY TALK WITH HIS STAND-IN, MINISTER OF
STATE CABINET AFFAIRS ABDUL AZIZ HUSSAIN, WHO SEEMS TO PLAY AN
ACTIVE ROLE IN GOK FOREIGN AFFAIRS POLICY-MAKING AND IMPLEMENTA-
TION. (HE HAS JUST MADE THE MORNING PAPERS CONDEMNING AN ALLEGED
AMERICAN DEMAND THAT SYRIAN FORCES SHOULD WITHDRAW FROM LEBANON.)
MFA ACTING PROTOCOL CHIEF SEEMS TO THINK AN APPOINTMENT WITH
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HUSSAIN IN FOREIGN MINISTER'S ABSENCE WOULD BE FEASIBLE.

4. RECOMMENDATION: THAT AMB LEONARD COME TO KUWAIT IN THE PERIOD
JULY 29-AUGUST 3 OR AUGUST 5-6. (THURSDAY AFTERNOONS AND
FRIDAYS ARE USELESS HERE.) REQUEST DEPT COMMENT. IF AMB LEONARD
DECIDES TO COME, PLEASE GIVE US FIRM SCHEDULE ASAP SO WE CAN
START MAKING ARRANGEMENTS. AND AN AFTERTHOUGHT: MEETINGS ON

SUNDAY (JULY 30 OR AUGUST 6) ARE MOST UNLIKELY BECAUSE
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETS AT LENGTH THEN.
SUTHERLAND

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